

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 16047OXI	FOR FURTHER ACTION	see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.
International application No. PCT/AU2004/001520	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 3 November 2004	(Earliest) Priority Date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 3 November 2003
Applicant OXIANA LIMITED et al		

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of 3 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box No. II).

3. Unity of invention is lacking (See Box No. III).

4. With regard to the title,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the drawings,

- a. the figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 1

as suggested by the applicant.

as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

- b. none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/001520

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int. Cl. 7: C22B 3/08, C22B 15/00, B01J 3/04

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

REFER ELECTRONIC DATA BASE CONSULTED

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
DWPI - IPC: C22B 3/08, C22B 15/00, B01J 3/04 and LEACH+, FERRIC, SULPHURIC, SULFURIC, CHALCOCIT+, COPPER, CU

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	AU 769984 B (PASMINCO AUSTRALIA LTD) 12 February 2004 whole document	1-18
A	US 6319389 B (FOUNTAIN et al.) 20 November 2001 whole document	1-18
A	WO 2000/006784 A (WESTERN METAL RESOURCES LTD) 10 February 2000 whole document	1-18
A	GB 2020261 A (NEW BRUNSWICK RESEARCH AND PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL) 14 November 1979 whole document	1-18
A	US 5993635 A (HOURN et al.) 30 November 1999 whole document	1-18

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C See patent family annex

* Special categories of cited documents:	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search
9 December 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

15 DEC 2004

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/001520

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report		Patent Family Member				
AU	72233/00	NONE				
US	6319389	AU 71731/00	CA 2326081	ZA 200006842		
WO	0006784	AU 47635/99 US 6537440	CA 2336284	ES 2206004		
GB	2020261	AU 46084/79 CA 1203083 FI 791433 PT 77768 US 4415540	BE 876054 DE 2914823 FR 2424962 US 4224122 US 4619814	CA 1121605 ES 8504950 JP 54147102 US 4317803 ZA 7901583		
US	5993635	AU 49331/96 EP 0815270 PL 322364	BG 101980 IN 187985 WO 9629439	CA 2215963 NZ 303107 ZA 9602223		

Due to data integration issues this family listing may not include 10 digit Australian applications filed since May 2001.

END OF ANNEX